



# BULLetin



March 2001

DX—THE REAL PURPOSE OF HAM RADIO!

## GENERAL MEETING

## Soap Box— Words from our President de KR6C

*The SCDXC meets the second Thursday of the month. Our next meeting will be a **PIZZA BASH** and will be on March 8, 2001. See you at SHAKEY'S just South of Juns on Sepulveda.*

*Time will be 7 PM*

*(Exit the San Diego Fwy (405) at Jefferson and proceed east to Sepulveda Blvd.)*



Chuck, KR6C,  
President of  
the SCDXC for  
2001

Hi everyone,

Well the new millennium is moving right along as we head into the spring DX season. With the solar peak, and some great DXpeditions, the future is looking pretty good. I was very pleased to see another great turnout at the last meeting, thanks to Skip and John (N7CQQ who

donated the video to the club) for a fine presentation. In case you didn't notice, the "social" break lasted a few minutes longer so we could have a little more time to catch up with the eyeball QSO's. It was mentioned

afterwards by several members, the additional time was appreciated. We'll play this by ear for awhile and make adjustments based on the amount of club business and length of the presentation. We don't want the meetings to extend too late into the evening.

One main issue of concern for the club is the meeting room. We no longer will have the use of Juns facilities. We appreciate the free use of the room for these past years.

We are exploring all options. KJ6Y and W6VX are working to locate another place and they need your assistance. If you have any ideas please let them know. If the location had a place for our two cabinets, that would be great.

*(Continued on page 2)*



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### WEB DISTRIBUTION OF THE BULLETIN

This month we are initiating a new method of distributing the BULLETin. All paid members who have e-mail addresses in the data base have been informed of a web address that contains the BULLETin file.

Downloading this file will be much faster than using standard email and it will solve the problem of tying up the email network. If we do not have your e mail address, please send it to the Editor ASAP.

### March Meeting Location Changed!

**THE MARCH 8 MEETING WILL BE A PIZZA BASH AND WILL BE HELD AT THE SHAKEYS PIZZA ON SEPULVEDA JUST SOUTH OF JUNS.**



So — you ask — Who BE THESE SMILING FACES? We introduce the Southern California

## The Veeeeep Speaks

### WOW!!!

One month on the job and things are really getting exciting. I heard from Jun officially on Feb 16th that we've lost our meeting room. Rich, W6VX and I have talked to several places trying to find a suitable place. We will let everyone know where as soon as we can.

So, we will make a change in our traditional month for the PIZZA BASH. This year we will have the BASH in March. That will give us a breather while we locate a suitable meeting place. So — on March 8th come and join us at Shakey's on Sepulveda, just south of Jun's.

April is the Visalia Convention, so no meeting. We hope to announce a new place for May. If anyone knows of a place, preferably on the west side, or knows someone who knows someone,



please let Rich or me know, and one of us will check it out.

Other than that, it was a nice turnout for the Feb meeting. It looked like a fun time was had by all. Lot's of interest in the raffle prizes. If you have any ideas for prizes or there's something you'd like to see on the table, let me know and I'll see what I can do. I did get a chance to play around in the ARRL CW DX contest and picked up a few new on several bands, including 160. It was fun.

Hope to see you at the Pizza Bash. Bring your best stories about your latest DX accomplishments.

73 de Skip

## de KR6C

*(Continued from page 1)*

The board is in the process of streamlining the club's operation and finances. (We may have to pay for a meeting room) One of the recent changes is the e-Bulletin. Over the past two years the cost for the printing and postage of 250 Bulletins has sky-rocketed, not to mention the increase in damaged or missing mail. We have received lots of positive response to this method and also understand due to the size of the file, downloads can be slow on non-56K systems. A new method, using the Internet, is being used starting with

this issue.

Some members have requested to continue receiving the printed version and we will continue to accommodate this for the time being. I would like to thank Harvey for his tremendous amount of work and enthusiasm, great publication! We will also be providing quarterly information updates to the webmaster for postings so if you have any important information please pass it along to us and finally, were laying out a long-term budget which needs to carry us through the Visalia 2002 convention.

Speaking of conventions, remember there will be NO MEETING IN APRIL. If you haven't made your reservations yet, now's a good time to do it! Registration forms can be

found in this issue of the BULLETIN.

The 2002 Visalia DX Convention will be hosted by our club and co-chaired by Carl, WU6D and Will, K6NDV. Committees will be formed in the next month or so. You are encouraged to participate in the "back room" of the convention. See Carl and Will for further information. Once again

I would like to thank the membership for taking an active roll in this club. Skip is preparing a great year of programs and if there's anything new you would like to see, please let us know.

CU in the pile-up's



DX Club caught without their radios or beer! Picture was taken by N6IC at Feb Meeting.

## Spotting Derby

### De K6EXO

It has been almost eleven years since I became the SYSOP\_ for the Valley PacketCluster. And Eight for the West LA node. For the most part it has been, and still is, a fun thing. Working with N6VR and W6KK to keep the system alive. I think I will write a book someday on the reliability of computers and radios. The users of the Valley and West LA node will soon be receiving the latest in my "yearly" Node News. The Derby was started about four years ago as a way to encourage activity by club members. W6EL wrote the scoring software. You have to be a member of the SCDXC to be listed.



An interesting statistic — the total number of members in the club has increased over these four years; but, the number of members posting spots has decreased! I think we can attribute this to the advent of SURVIVOR and the X Football league. Or, is it that we are less active? Certainly when a "new country" comes on we see a lot more activity.

Oh well, lets see the scores for Jan 2001. And a reminder, the March Scores will be in the May issue. The April issue is the Convention

Spotter	Spots	Score
-----	-----	-----
W6LAX	350	647
AA6NP	121	348
N6HY	182	344
W6VX	82	339
AD6KQ	92	333
N6DHz	102	268
W6KK	129	259
W6TG	62	230
K6YRA	45	224
K6RO	42	185
N6OU	95	163
N6KZ	72	152
WA6TLA	35	150
K6IRA	91	149
KR6C	57	120
WO6M	33	109
W7RF	32	106
K6YUI	24	97
KG6OK	22	94
W6AUG	45	89
N6RT	28	84
KC6X	25	73
W6RJ	23	67
N6IC	29	61
K6GXO	28	61
KJ6Y	31	51
N6HC	23	50
W6YOO	16	47
W6EA	10	38
W6SR	13	36
KC6T	15	35
W6ZH	14	33
K6FG	7	31
W6YJ	13	30
W3SE	9	26
K6EXO	6	22
AI6Z	11	20
W6YY	8	18
KN6H	9	17
WA5VGI	10	16
W6OM	4	16
K6WS	6	13
K6ZMW	8	12
W6GA	2	12
KB6B	4	10
W6RW	1	10
NQ6N	3	9
W6FW	3	7
W6RT	2	3
W6EGZ	5	2
N6AV	1	2
W6IRD	1	0

## E-Mail Addresses

If you have received this edition of the BULLETIN by regular mail please send us your e-mail address.

If you do not have e-mail — please let us know. The standard method for distribution is now by Internet.

Members who are not on-line may continue to receive the BULLETIN by mail,

**DXer of The Year  
and  
Clipperton Award  
applications are due  
at the  
March  
meeting.  
Look on the club web  
page for the  
criteria for these  
awards**

## Ham Puzzle

Last month we asked you to identify a cute gizmo — here are some answers

Dear Editor:

The tool described in the puzzle is used for a quick check of tuned LC circuits in receivers, oscillator/multiplier circuits, etc., without actually disturbing the adjustment of the coil or capacitors.

Inserting the brass end of the tool into the coil of the circuit of interest will lower the coils inductance because of the reaction of the eddy currents induced in the brass. Inserting the iron into the coil of the circuit of interest increases the inductance of the coil because of the high permeability of the iron.

If insertion of the brass end of the tool increases the output of the circuit the resonating capacitor is too large. If insertion of the iron end of the tool increases the output of the circuit the resonating capacitor is too small. If the coil is in perfect alignment then the output will drop when either end of the tool is inserted.

Mel Hughes - K6SY

Other responses:

W6HT and N6HY both provided correct answers.

## Question

A new member sent this question. Any ideas?

I just put up a 72 foot tower and am now looking at antennas. I think I will go for a Tri Band 10/15/20 and a Two element 40. Which of the many tri band antennas is the best performer and what do you suggest for a WARC antenna?

How should they be stacked?

Send your answers to the BULLETIN

by Milt W6RJO For March, Milt asks this one:



*Milt reminds us that the April "Convention" issue will not include a puzzle. So you have two months to ponder this month's gem.*

## Last Chance for Club Dues !

**A reminder to all those who have yet to send in your 2001 club dues. YOU WILL BE DROPPED FROM THE ROSTER at the end of this month.**

**Please send your check for \$18 dollars to the Membership Chairperson NOW. The address is:**

**Harv Shore K6EXO  
6433 Pat Ave  
West Hills CA 91307.**

**INCLUDE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS.**

**Club dues are considered past due after Dec. 31.**

V. (for veteran) H. Ham has decided to work some deep space DX. FEH on this penny ante earth stuff, he says. To transmit in all directions he figures that he needs an isotropic radiator and a California kilowatt. Rising above the usual criticism, including that there is no such thing as an isotropic radiator, he plans to build one. He knows that a spherical capacitor can be obtained from the space between an inner sphere and an enclosing outer sphere. If the outer sphere gets as large as the universe, where the DX is, he asserts that the inner sphere capacitance with respect to the universe is his isotropic radiator. Its capacitance (in pf) is  $33.17 \times \text{inner sphere radius (in ft)}$ . He decides that the inner sphere radius should be about 20 wavelengths.

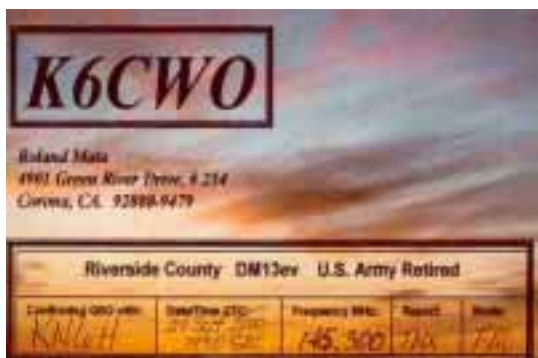
- (1) At what frequency (wavelength) should he transmit?
- (2) What is the radius of his sphere in feet?
- (3) What is the capacitance of the sphere with respect to the universe?
- (4) What is corresponding reactance of the sphere at the transmitting frequency to couple to the universe?

Hint: He read somewhere that the universe is bathed in hydrogen gas which when excited (as he is) radiates at 1400 MHz. It is called the "waterhole" frequency, because it connects all the "species" in the universe.

## QSLs to Remember

Chuck, KN6H, sure gets around.  
Read this:

"Had a good one last October. (ed note We wanted to publish this a few months back — but, ran out of space.) A bear invaded our quiet afternoon picnic in the Charlton Flat picnic area atop the Angeles Crest. A call



on the DCS repeater brought both Forest Service and Fish & Wildlife rangers. Both the XYL and I survived unscathed, but the bear followed us awhile. Interesting story now, wasn't much fun at the time. And of course I did not have my camera along. (For souvenirs, we saved a shredded tube of Pringles potato chips, a chewed up paper plate, a throw pillow whose foam innards had been sampled plus a Thermos with claw marks punched in the side).

I exchanged QSLs with the guy who heard me yelling on the repeater, just as a memento for us both. He was Roland K6CWO and it was the most interesting QSO he'd had this year.

Oh yes, The bear was quite passive, showed no aggression toward us at all - just wanted our lunch. After all, we were guests in his home.

The real surprise was when a second, somewhat larger bear showed up later that afternoon after the

Fish and Wildman had left.  
A footnote to the bear story:

In over 30 years of stealing away to this Angeles Crest picnic spot, we usually take my XYL's Lexus which has no ham radio. This trip, I can't explain why, I threw my 2-Meter HT and mag mount in the back seat.

Fortuitous? Good luck? Providential? Without it, I'd never have been able to report the bear so promptly - literally while he was following us. Perhaps this was one of those Rod Serling "Twilight Zone" do-do-do-do moments?!

You can bet the HT and mag mount will be along from now on. Charged up with extra batteries. Might even put a 2-meter rig permanently in her car.....  
BCNU, ....Chuck

VIEW: AITUTAKI ISLAND

OTHER ACTIVE CALLS: A35DD, S79DD, S92DD, T20DD, T31DD, V47DD, V63CG, ZF2RE, ZK1PEQ, ISIDD, 3D2CQ, 5WODD, 8P9EG, /FM, 1137, /NH6, /P12, /P14, /P40 EX: KB6MZM



## Now wait a second!

What's the deal with showing a VE3 card in a DX Club newsletter? Take a close look my friends. This is THE FIRST DX card for our very own WU6T err ah I mean W6VX. Rich tells us that this was his very first DX QSL. At that time little Richie held the novice cal KA9GDI and was an apartment dweller in Chicago (W9 land). As you can see, he was so loud the VE3 could hardly stop shaking! KA9GDI was running a FT-101E with a 5 band dipole at 20 feet.



## Maintenance of Heil Sound Headsets

By Jim Zimmerman N6KZ

Many members of the amateur radio community have discovered the ease and convenience of using a headset (a unit that combines the functions of a microphone and a headphone) when operating for extended periods of time. There are several companies that offer good, quality units, but my favorite is the Heil Sound Company's PRO series and PRO-Micro series headsets.

These headsets are manufactured with quality components to give excellent fit and performance. The basic headset units are usable with a wide variety of commercial transceivers through the use of adapter plugs that match the rig's microphone and headset jacks and permit footswitch or hand switch Push-To-Talk (PPT) operation. The chief disadvantage I have found to using the Heil Sound products is the initial price of the units. They retail for about twice as much as other similar units made by competing firms. Still, if they last longer than the cheaper ones then the life cycle cost is about the same.

Are the Heil Sound headsets worth the extra cash? Well, only you can decide that, but I recently learned that Heil Sound has a great support web site <http://info@heilsound.com> to obtain product information **and replacement parts** for their headsets. Information provided gives type and unit cost for all parts of each type headset and audio accessories.

Upon discovering this source of data, I immediately contacted the company at (618) 257-3000 to learn more about getting replacement headset parts and possible repairs for my own Heil Sound PRO-series headset. My headset had a broken microphone boom tip clamshell (plastic) that needed repair. In addition, I wanted to replace the headset's worn Cable Assembly. I was quoted each part's prices and offered the opportunity to send my headset in to Heil Sound for repair/replacement of broken worn parts.

I mailed my headset off that very day to 5800 N. Illinois, Fairview, IL 62208.

My headset's repair took about two weeks and cost a sum that was both reasonable and fair (especially compared to the cost of a new headset!) The on-the-air performance of the repaired headset was gratifying. Prior to the repairs, I had used my Heil Sound headset for over 6 years, on several IOTA DXpeditions, and it had served me well, but now with its in-factory repairs it's like new again. I strongly recommend the Heil Sound products and endorse their service department.

## FCC wants your Registration Number

The FCC has proposed requiring everyone it does business with obtain and use an FCC Registration Number. Many amateurs registered with the Universal Licensing System already have been assigned a 10-digit FRN by the Commission Registration System--or CORES. The FCC has not made its use mandatory, however.

The FCC is proposing to reject filings requiring an FRN that do not include the number.

## CQ DX Network needs you!

*(Ed note: I saw this article and decided to publish it here knowing full well that it may cause negative comment. However, I thought many of us are unaware of the "advances" made in our hobby. In the near future I will publish an article about the "key down" guys who run contests to see how much r. f. power they can generate from mobile rigs.)*

Talk to other amateur radio operators world wide using Internet Phone or Surf-N-Call [provided for download].

Talk over Links or repeaters online to other operators in the United States or England.

Start your own link that allows your local amateur radio operators to talk to hams world wide. ICOM 706 users linking cable is available.

Use TCP/IP [Packet] Online to visit world wide packet stations and BBS's.

If you're a tech. and want to talk DX or you're an amateur radio operator that likes testing different modes join us in communications on the internet, you will be amazed.

Must be a licensed amateur radio operator.

go to:  
<http://geocities.com/cqdxnet2000>  
for more information write us at  
[cqdxnet@hotmail.com](mailto:cqdxnet@hotmail.com)

**U r g e n t**  
**We will no longer be meeting at Juns**  
**A new meeting place must be found ASAP.**  
**If you have any suggestions as to where we**  
**can meet. please call KJ6Y or W6VX**

# International DX Convention

This year the Northern California DX Club will run the Visalia Convention. We hope to see you all there!

## Propagation—March 2001

by Shel, W6EL



These predictions for the five prime HF bands show the times when propagation is expected to be best from Los Angeles to several locations that are expected to be active during the coming month. Other times are possible, but with weaker signals or lower probability. Openings are not expected on bands that are not listed. A solar flux of 162, corresponding to a sunspot number of 116, and an average geomagnetic field are assumed. Sunrise/sunset times are at the DX location. All times are UTC. Good luck and good DX from Shel, W6EL

BQ9P Pratas - 3/5 to 3/15 - Beam 308 degrees  
Sunrise/sunset (on 3/10)  
2229/1017  
80: 1200-1230.  
40: 1000-1430.  
20: 0800-1730.  
15: 1600-1800 and 2200-0530.  
10: 2300-0300.

3G0 Easter Island - 3/4 to 3/19 - Beam 171 degrees  
Sunrise/sunset (on 3/12)  
1321/0134  
80: 0500-1200.  
40: 0300-1300.  
20: 0100-1430.  
15: 2030-1100 and 1400-1830.  
10: 1500-0800.

V3 Belize - 3/11 to 3/16 - Beam 114 degrees  
Sunrise/sunset (on 3/14)  
1206/0000  
80: 0430-1130.  
40: 0230-1200.  
20: 0030-1330.  
15: 1300-0730.  
10: 1430-0300.

YJ Vanuatu - 3/11 to 3/25 - Beam 246 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 3/18) 1855/0657  
80: 0930-1330.  
40: 0730-1400.  
20: 0530-1600.  
15: 1800-1100 and 1500-1530.  
10: 1830-0530.

A5 Bhutan - 3/15 to 3/21 - Beam 333 degrees  
Sunrise/sunset (on 3/18) 0009/1206  
40: 1230-1330.  
20: 1000-1700. Long path around 0100.  
15: 0000-0530 and 1600-1930.  
10: 0100-0300.

V5 Namibia - 3/17 to 3/27 - Beam 86 degrees  
Sunrise/sunset (on 3/22) 0500/1658  
80: 0330-0400.  
40: 0200-0430.  
20: 2330-0730. Long path 1430-1630.  
15: 1930-0230.  
10: 1500-2130.

## QSL via ....

EASTER ISLAND, CE0YEH. QSL to DJ2EH.

COMOROS, D68C . QSL via G3SWH.

MARQUESAS ISLD, FO/DL1AWI. QSL to DL1AWI home call.

EASTERN KIRIBATI, T32RD. QSL via OK1RD.

UKRAINE, EO6FR. QSL to UX0FF

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, VP5U. QSL via WA4WTG.

MACAO, XX9TDX. QSL to SM0GNU,

## NEEDED

WE must find a place to store the cabinets used to store the Club "stuff". Please call Skip, KJ6Y if you can help.

## International DX Convention 2001

The 2001 International DX Convention is being sponsored by the NCDXC and will be held at the Holiday Inn in Visalia on April 20-22. Look on the web at [www.ncdxc.org](http://www.ncdxc.org) for more information. A pre-

## Will this be his LAST RADIO?

Rich, W6VX, has a new radio.

So what's new?

Rich ALWAYS has a new radio!

This what he has to say about the latest addition to the shack.

"I have always been one who enjoys owning the latest equipment available. Last year I succumbed to my desire to own new Yaesu FT1000MP, Mark V.

I've operated the 1000 series of radios for the past seven years and both the FT1000 and the original FT1000MP graced my shack. When the new Mark V came along I felt that the boys would really have to do their homework to beat these past accomplishments. I wasn't disappointed. The Mark V continues this tradition with improvements to the DSP circuitry, 200 watt output, an improved display (the other 1000MP showed all segments whether lit or not), and greater operating flexibility. The Mark V offers what every DXer wants-high-end transceiver performance at a competitive price.

I've owned my Mark V since late August and I've become accustomed to its ability to cope with a suburban noise environment. I strongly suggest that those who face endless noise like I do purchase this radio. You won't regret it!

## QSL Hints

de 5R8GQ

*(This note was passed on by Chuck, KN6H. Ken tells us a bit of his experiences as a DX station receiving many requests for QSL cards. The story bears repeating.)*



There are only about 30 hams in Madagascar including myself. Mail service is terrible there. My sister lives there and I only use DHL as the mail is 100% opened and/or stolen. Most hams there can't QSL because the mail is stolen, not because they won't. In a country where the per capita income is less than \$400/year, an IRC or one dollar is a lot of money. A dollar will buy 12 small loaves of fresh baked bread.

Most hams there are wealthy by local



standards, but they can't afford to QSL 100% unless they get help with return postage and an envelope. This was my first experience at DX operating. I hesitate to say DXpedition, because I spent the majority of my time traveling and sightseeing instead of sitting in front of a radio, hihi. Still, I had 3,700 QSO's, including 900 on RTTY (my favorite mode) and 330 on PSK31. I was very surprised at how many people don't help with return postage or put a buck in for a

DX QSL card. Maybe they figured AD6KA was a different person than me and why should they send a buck that was not going to the DX station, hihi. And there are the people who send me their card in an envelope with no return envelope. Buro time! Some folks will send their card in an envelope, throw in a buck or IRC but no return envelope. I guess they figure the buck pays for me to buy an envelope, put their address on it and buy postage and put postage on it. Wrong! Back through the Buro....When you are doing hundreds and hundreds of cards you don't have time for that nonsense. And here's a tip: write something nice and personal on the card and sign your name, instead of just slapping your computer label on it. It really makes a difference and shows that you care about the card.

I plan to go back in the Fall of this year, 2001, hopefully in time for the CQWW RTTY Contest and the CQ WW SSB Contest, though it will be tough to make both.

TNX, 73, Ken 5R8GQ/AD6KA

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## Who We Are —

The BULLETin is published monthly by the Southern California DX Club.

Please notify the BULLETin publisher if you do not receive your BULLETin, have a change of address, or have found an error.

Please direct all submissions for the BULLETin to the editor.

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The BULLETin Publishing team consist



## For Sale, GOOD STUFF!

### ICOM CT-17 Lever Controllers.

These controllers were never used for the Clipperton trip and are in New Condition. Four available at \$100 each.

### HEIL SOUND FS-1 Footswitches -

Four footswitches are available for \$10 each.

### US Gov. GP-Small Tents - Three 15 Foot diameter surplus tents with poles.

Theses tents can be used in cold areas (each has a stove pipe access port), have two entrance openings, screen covers and are in good condition (only used once at Clipperton). Perfect for Field day use or expeditions. \$600. each, shipping/delivery can be arranged.

### US Gov. Cots - ( 10 ) Rebuilt, mostly alum frame. \$ 50.00 each.

**120/240 Volt Generators - ( 2 )** These generators are still under manufactures warranty, are clean and were only used for 7 days. Five (5) kW with circuit breakers. Shipping and or delivery can be arranged.

Large items ( tents, cots and generators ) are available for rent, contact John.

Send a check to John at P. O. Box 81, Searchlight, Nevada 89046. Questions? E-Mail John at [N7CQQ@laughlin.net](mailto:N7CQQ@laughlin.net).

## Members discount prices . . . . .

Duane, AA6EE is offering SCDXC members discount prices on Callbook & ARRL items:

Deduct 10% on CDs if check mailed by 3/15:

Callbook 2001 CD-ROM: \$38.95 including s/h

QRZ! Ham Radio CD (v.16): \$17.95 including s/h

Periodicals CD-ROM 2000 (QST, NCJ, QEX): \$19.95 including s/h (early March)

ARRL's Yagi Antenna Classics: 16.95  
ARRL Antenna Book (19th ed. \$30): \$27.95

ARRL 2001 Handbook (\$32): \$29.95  
Any other ARRL item available at discount.

E-mail [aa6ee@earthlink.net](mailto:aa6ee@earthlink.net)  
More items on Web site: <http://www.radiodan.com/aa6ee/>

S/H: \$2 for VISA/MC (for free shipping, send check by 3/15).

Send check to: (CA residents add 7%)

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16832 Whirlwind Ln #SCDXC  
Ramona CA 92065  
[aa6ee@earthlink.net](mailto:aa6ee@earthlink.net)  
<http://www.radiodan.com/aa6ee/>

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION, New or Renewal Return to: Harvey Shore, 6433 Pat Avenue, West Hills, California 91307

CALL \_\_\_\_\_ NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

HOME TELEPHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ WORK TELEPHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE NAME/CALL (if desired to be listed in roster) \_\_\_\_\_

## Letters to the editor

Larry, passed this on

The Die Hard DXer!"

By: Clinton Herbert -- AB7RG.

### THE DXPEDITION:

5:00 AM - Fellow DXers arrive. Crawl out of nice warm bed.

5:30 AM - Toss all gear into truck.

5:45 AM - Get gear out of neighbors truck, and put it in yours.

6:00 AM - Get speeding ticket while hurrying to get to the mountains.

7:15 AM - Get to "The Site", near top of mountain.

7:16 AM - Start unloading gear.

7:20 AM - Get poked in eye with 20M vertical by fellow DXer.

7:50 AM - Arrive at hospital to get eye patched up.

8:30 AM - Get another speeding ticket while heading up to mountains.

8:45 AM - Arrive back at site. Unload antennas yourself this time.

9:45 AM - Hike up to mountain top. Pass out from exhaustion.

9:50 AM - Wake up to smelling salt, and laughter from fellow DXers.

10:00 AM - Put up antennas, and set up rigs.

10:15 AM - Fire up rig, call CQ for half an hour; no replies.

10:46 AM - Hook up coax to rig...

10:48 AM - Realize that finals are wasted in main rig.

10:50 AM - Hook up back-up rig, this time with coax.

11:00 AM - Yell CQ, rare VP8 comes back; antenna falls down...

11:15 AM - Wake up to smelling salt, fellow DXers shaking heads.

11:30 AM - Guy antennas.

12:05 PM - See long list of QSO's made by fellow DXers.

12:06 PM - Notice rare VP8 in logbook.

12:07 PM - Beat fellow DXer over head with logbook.

12:09 PM - Restrained by rest of DXpedition team.

12:30 PM - Back to rig for another attempt.

12:35 PM - Nearby lightning strike kills receive. Notice wet pants...

12:36 PM - Look for shelter.

12:38 PM - Find cave!

12:41 PM - Watch antenna get struck by lightning while hiding in cave.

12:42 PM - Wish it was fellow DXers antenna, or him that was struck...

12:45 PM - Realize you're not alone in cave...

12:46 PM - Pick up really big rock...

12:47 PM - Mauled by large angry bear.

12:50 PM - Get pulled out of cave by fellow DXers.

1:05 PM - Finally get talked into receiving medical treatment.

1:30 PM - Arrive back at hospital.

1:55 PM - Receive series of painful rabies shots, and multiple stitches.

2:30 PM - Get out of hospital and return home.

2:35 PM - "Explain" stitches and eye patch to wife.

3:00 PM - Realize gear is still up on mountain, with bear.

3:01 PM - Wish fellow DXers were still up on mountain, with bear...

3:03 PM - Consider taking up drinking.

7:00 PM - Get phone call from DXer buddies.

7:05 PM - Agree to go on DXpedition again tomorrow...

## NET BENEFITS

Lots of DX stations use nets for a North American propagation beacon - we never check in, but we know if we can hear the nets, the band must be in really good shape and it's time to go down the band and work the real DXers.



## A new DX Record in the Books

History was made this month when hams in Canada and the UK completed the first two-way transatlantic Amateur Radio exchange on 136 kHz.

Larry Kayser, VA3LK, and Lawrence Mayhead, G3AQC, managed the LF feat using extremely slow CW that featured 90 second-long dits and 180-second-long dahs. The two-way contact

## QSL Info on the Internet

We note that after every contest a number of the deserving post requests for QSL addresses.

Here is a few hints on using the INTERNET to find the QSL information.

1. Try your favorite search engines. Put in the call want to find. I like <http://www.google.com>
2. <http://www.qrz.com/> is QRZ's call lookup.
3. <http://www.buck.com> is Buckmasters.
4. I think the VERY BEST place to find anything ham radio on the internet is <http://www.ac6v.com/> If you go look there, under QSL you'll find dozens of places to look up calls on the internet.
5. The Daily DX Search Engine at <http://www.dailydx.com/search.html>
6. OH2BUA's World Famous Web Cluster is at <http://oh2aq.kolumbus.com/dxs/>
7. The Primo QSL manager database is at: <http://www.golist.net/>

# Pre-Registration Form

International DX Convention (Visalia) April 20-22, 2001

## Banquet Meal Choice(s):

C = Chicken, P = Prime Rib, S = Salmon (Circle Below)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ C P S Meal

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ C P S

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ C P S

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ C P S

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Country, USA or (?) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Pre-Registration, Post Marked by 4-7-01, \$60.00 per person. -- \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Amateur: Dinner & Breakfast only, \$35.00 per person ---- \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total - \$ \_\_\_\_\_

After 4-7-01 or at the Convention = \$65.00. -----Your Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Please, make check payable to: NCDXC Convention 01.

( Please, do not send cash! )

Mail this Form and payment to:  
IDXC % Dick Letrich, W6KM  
3686 Kirk Road  
San Jose, CA 95124-3816

Convention Location:  
Holiday Inn Plaza Park,  
9000 W. Airport Drive, Visalia, CA  
Tel. 559-651-5000

**Real Radios**  
**Glow in the Dark!**